

Message Text

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72

ACTION ACDA-19

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SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

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AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR PRIORITY

S E C R E T VIENNA 9609

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: REVISED TEXT OF ALLIED FRAMEWORK PROPOSAL

FROM US REP MBFR

REF: NATO 5584 AND 5586

1. WE HAVE FOLLING COMMENTS ON CHANGES MADE BY COUNCIL IN ALLIED FRAMEWORK PROPOSAL. WE STRESS ONLY MAIN POINTS OF CONSEQUENCE TO US HERE.

2. PARA. 3. THIRD SENTENCE. PROPOSED CHANGE FROM "THIS CEILING MIGHT BE SET" TO "THIS CEILING SHOULD BE SET" WILL MAKE IT A REQUIREMENT OF PHASE I THAT AGREEMENT BE REACHED ON THE FIGURE OF 700,000 AS THE COMMON CEILING. THIS VIOLATES THE ALLIED UNDERSTANDING THAT THE 700,000 FIGURE IS MERELY AN ILLUSTRATION AND THAT THE FIRST PHASE WOULD REQUIRE AGREEMENT

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ONLY ON THE CONCEPT OF COMMON CEILING AND NOT ON ANY PARTICULAR

LEVEL. WE BELIEVE IT ESSENTIAL THAT THIS CHANGE BE DELETED IF THE FIRST PHASE IS NOT TO BE SO OVERLOADED AS TO BECOME UNNEGOTIABLE.

3. PARA 6. THE COUNCIL HAS DELETED THE THIRD SENTENCE, THE FIRST PART OF THE THIRD SENTENCE, NAMELY "THESE FORCES WOULD BE WITHDRAWN TO THE USSR" HAD THE EFFECT OF PRECLUDING THE REDEPLOYMENT OF THE FORCES TO HUNGARY. IF THIS PART OF THE SENTENCE CONTINUES TO BE DELETED IT WILL BE ESSENTIAL TO OBTAIN A NONCIRCUMVENTION PROVISION WHICH PREVENTS RE-DEPLOYMENT TO HUNGARY. THE DELETION OF THE REST OF THE SENTENCE IS NOT AS IMPORTANT. SUGGEST WE ARGUE FOR RETENTION OF ORIGINAL LANGUAGE USING HUNGARY ARGUMENT BUT ACCEPT CHANGE IF THERE IS REAL RESISTANCE.

4. PARA 7. THE COUNCIL HAS DELETED THE FINAL CLAUSE "AS THE U.S. GOVERNMENT MAY DECIDE IN BOTH CASES". IF THIS DELETION STANDS, THEN THE WORDS "COULD AS DESIRED" SHOULD BE INSERTED IN PLACE OF THE WORD "WOULD" IN THE FIFTH LINE OF THE PARA AND THE COMMA AFTER THE WORD "UNITS" SHOULD BE DELETED AND THE WORDS "COULD BE" IN THE SIXTH LINE SHOULD BE DELETED.

5. PARA 10. THE COUNCIL HAS INSERTED IN THE SECOND PARA THE REQUIREMENT THAT THE SECOND PHASE SHOULD ADDRESS " THE AGGREGATES OF NATO AND WARSAW PACT GROUND FORCES REMAINING AFTER FIRST PHASE REDUCTIONS". INCLUSION OF THIS WORDING WILL HAVE THE EFFECT OF MAKING THE COMPOSITION OF THE SECOND PHASE A MAJOR FOCUS OF FIRST PHASE NEGOTIATIONS DIVERTING FOCUS FROM US-SOVIET REDUCTIONS. THE SOVIETS HAVE ALREADY EXPRESSED GREAT INTEREST IN GERMAN AND UK REDUCTIONS AND IN SETTING INDIVIDUAL LEVELS ON REDUCED FORCES. THE "AGGREGATES" FORMULA EXPRESSES DESIRE OF EUROPEAN ALLIES TO ALLOCATE PHASE II REDUCTIONS AMONG THEMSELVES AND NOT TO ACCEPT SUB-CEILINGS ON NATIONAL FORCES. WE SYMPATHIZE WITH THIS DESIRE BUT DO NOT WISH TO START NEGOTIATING WITH SOVIETS, WHO WILL IMMEDIATELY RECOGNIZE ITS SIGNIFICANCE, ON IT NOW. THE LAST SENTENCE OF PARA 34 OF THE ALLIANCE POSITION PAPER EXPRESSLY STATES THAT THE ALLIANCE SHOULD NOT BECOME INVOLVED IN DISCUSSING DETAILS OF SECOND PHASE REDUCTIONS EARLY IN NEGOTIATIONS

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OTHER THAN TO SAY THAT THE SECOND PHASE WOULD COMPLETE MOVEMENT TO THE COMMON CEILING. THE "WHICH" CLAUSE IN THE LAST SENTENCE OF THE FIRST PARA GOES AS FAR AS IS DESIRABLE IN THIS AREA TO MEET INTEREST EXPRESSED BY THE SOVIETS.

6. RECOMMEND US NATO REP BE AUTHORIZED TO SEEK CHANGES INDICATED IN THIS MESSAGE. HOWEVER, IF NECESSARY TO GAIN RAPID ALLIED APPROVAL OF PAPER, WE BELIEVE WE COULD LIVE WITH

ALL COUNCIL AMMENDMENTS EXCEPT AMENDMENT REFERRED TO IN PARA
2 IMPOSING REQUIREMENT TO ACHIEVE 700,000 FIGURE.HUMES

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